UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/714,277	11/17/2000	Takayuki Suzuki	862.C2055	5519

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EXAMINER
COUSO, JOSE L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2621	

DATE MAILED: 05/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _26 April 2004_.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-6,8-15 and 17-20_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-6,8-15 and 17-20_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2.   Claims 1-6, 8-15 and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

anticipated by Alcorn (U.S. Patent No. 5,870,509).

With regard to claims 1, 10 and 19, Alcorn describes an input unit, arranged to

input a rendering command (see for example figure 4A, element 15 and refer for

example to column 6, lines 58-61); a discriminator, arranged to discriminate a type of

object to be rendered on the basis of the rendering command inputted by the input unit

(see for example figure 4A, elements 32a-c and refer for example to column 7, line 66

through column 8, line 7); a first determiner, arranged to determine whether or not the

object is to be subjected to a correction process, in accordance with the result

discriminated by the discriminator (see for example figure 4A, elements 32a-c and refer

for example to column 8, lines 9-23); and a second determiner, arranged to determine

whether or not the object which is determined to be subjection to a correction process is

an object segmented from an image or not (see for example figure 4A, elements 32a-c

and refer for example to column 1, lines 16-24, column 8, lines 24-29 and column 16,

lines 8-28). Column 1, lines 16-24 describes that the graphic primitives represent views

of objects and column 16, lines 8-28 describes respective segments that represent the

primitive and the corresponding object.

As to claims 2, 11 and 20, Alcorn describes a decision unit, arranged to decide a correction characteristic of the correction process on the basis of a characteristic of object when it is determined by the second determiner that the object is an object segmented from an image (refer for example to column 9, lines 46-62 and column 12, lines 50-57). Alcorn describes various elements which decide characteristics of segmented objects as (illustrated in figure 8), these characteristics are then used as parameters values to carry out the gradient and perspective correction.

In regard to claims 3 and 12, Alcorn describes a correction unit, arranged to execute an identical correction process for a plurality of segmented objects that form the image on the basis of the correction characteristic (refer for example to column 16, lines 29-45).

With regard to claims 4 and 13, Alcorn describes wherein the second determiner determines whether the object is an object segmented from an image or not on the basis of a rendering position of the object indicated by the rendering command (refer for example to column 7, lines 51-65).

As to claims 5 and 14, Alcorn describes wherein the second determiner has a memory for recording identification information indicating the presence of candidates of the segmented object in correspondence with a rendering region of the object and neighboring regions thereof (see for example figure 4B, element 48).

In regard to claims 6 and 15, Alcorn describes wherein the second determiner determines that the segmented object is present when the identification information which neighbors or overlaps the rendering region of the object indicated by the

rendering command to be processed is present (refer for example to column 9, lines 21-32).

As to claims 8 and 17, Alcorn describes wherein the decision unit comprises an extractor, arranged to extract a color or luminance distribution of the object which is determined by the first determiner to be subjected to the correction process (the texture mapping mechanism, i.e. element 46 shown in figure 6 extracts the color or luminance distribution of the object which is determined to undergo the correction process as described in column 9, lines 29-30).

In regard to claims 9 and 18, Alcorn describes wherein the decision unit decides the correction characteristic by combining pieces of the color or luminance distribution of information extracted from a plurality of segmented objects that form the image (refer for example to column 16, lines 18-45).

3.   Applicant's arguments filed April 26, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's arguments on page 9, lines 8-15, in which he argues that "nothing has been found in Alcorn that would teach or suggest determining whether or not the object which is determined to be subjected to a correction process is an object segmented from an image or not " have been considered, the examiner however respectfully disagrees. Alcorn clearly states, in column 8, line 8, that perspective correction is enabled, when this occurs each 3-D geometry accelerator mechanism performs operations on the data associated with the vertices of each triangle primitive.

The vertices of each triangle primitive as parts of an "object segmented from an image". Alcorn goes on to describe that "Each 3-D geometry accelerator mechanism also performs view clipping operations to ensure an accurate screen display of the resulting image when multiple windows are displayed, or when a portion of a primitive extends beyond the view volume represented on the display screen" which ensures that Alcorn is "determining whether or not the object which is determined to be subjected to a correction process is an object segmented from an image or not" because in this latter case the vertices of the triangle primitives are not part of an object segmented from an image, but rather from another image, i.e. the extended image which does not appear on the display screen.

4.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.
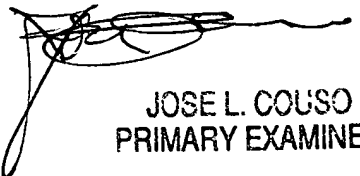
5.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jose L. Couso whose telephone number is (703) 305-4774. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 6:30 to 3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo Boudreau, can be reached on (703) 305-4706. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-8576.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JOSE L. COUSO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Jlc
May 12, 2004